

## THE WEEKLY NATIONAL INTELLIGENCER.

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## THIRTIETH CONGRESS. FIRST SESSION.

### Extracts from the Business Proceedings.

MONDAY, APRIL 3, 1848.

### IN SENATE.

The following message was received from the President of the United States: WASHINGTON, APRIL 3, 1848.

To the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States in Congress assembled.

I communicate to Congress for their information a copy of a despatch, with the accompanying documents, received at the Department of State from the Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of the United States at Paris, giving official information of the overthrow of the French monarchy, and the establishment in its stead of a provisional government based on republican principles.

This great event occurred suddenly, and was accomplished almost without bloodshed. The world has seldom witnessed a more interesting or sublime spectacle than the peaceful rising of the French people, resolved to secure for themselves enlarged liberty, and to assert in the majesty of their strength the great truth that in this enlightened age man is capable of governing himself.

The prompt recognition of the new Government by the representative of the United States at the French Court, and its full and unqualified approbation; and it has been authorized in a suitable manner to make known this fact to the constituted authorities of the French Republic.

Called upon to act on a sudden emergency, which could not have been anticipated by his instructions, he judged rightly of the feelings and sentiments of his Government and of his countrymen, when, in advance of the diplomatic representatives of other countries, he was the first to recognize, so far as it was in his power, the free government established by the French people.

The policy of the United States has ever been that of non-interference in the domestic affairs of other countries, leaving to each to establish the form of government of its own choice. While this policy will be maintained towards France, now suddenly transformed from a monarchy into a republic, all our sympathies are for the new Government, and we are anxious to see it established on a permanent basis. We can never forget that France was an early friend in our youthful struggles, and generously aided us in shaking off a foreign yoke and becoming a free and independent people.

We have enjoyed the blessings of our free institutions for nearly three-fourths of a century, and can properly appreciate its value. Our ardent and sincere congratulations are extended to the patriotic people of France, upon their noble and thus far successful efforts to secure for their future generations the principles of liberty and justice. It is not doubted that, under the benign influence of free institutions, the enlightened statesmen of republican France will find it to be for her interest and paramount glory to cultivate with the United States the most liberal principles of international intercourse and commercial reciprocity, whereby the prosperity and happiness of both nations will be promoted.

JAMES K. POLK.

Mr. HANNEGAN moved that the message and accompanying documents be referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations, and be printed for the use of the Senate.

Mr. ALLEN thought there was no necessity for the message, as no action was asked.

Mr. HANNEGAN said he believed it was the usual and certainly the respectful course in reference to an Executive communication.

Mr. ALLEN hoped it was not intended by the reference of this message to interfere with the action of the Senate on the resolutions he had the honor to submit. He certainly did not wish it to interfere and delay action on his proposition.

Mr. HANNEGAN assured the Senator from Ohio it was not contemplated to delay action on his resolutions.

The question was then taken on referring the message, and decided in the affirmative as follows:

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES.

By Mr. ATCHISON, from the Committee on Indian Affairs: A joint resolution to sanction an agreement made between the Wyandots and Delaware for the purchase of certain lands by the former of the latter tribe of Indians.

By Mr. WESTCOTT, from the Committee of Claims: House bill for the relief of Wm. Hogan, administrator of Michael Hogan, deceased, without amendment, accompanied by a report.

THE FRENCH REVOLUTION.

Mr. ALLEN moved to postpone all prior business with a view to take up the joint resolution submitted by him giving the congratulations of Congress to the French people.

Mr. CRITTENDEN avowed himself in favor of prompt action on the resolution and an early report; but he reminded the Senator of the necessity of taking up and disposing of the bill amendatory of the act relating to the Supreme Court, any delay of it would be equal to defeat.

Mr. ALLEN did not think the resolution would give rise to any debate. He intended to have spoken at large on the subject, but should forego it, and would content himself with reading from the journals a case that would serve as a precedent.

Mr. A. then read from the journals of the House the resolution submitted by Mr. Clay on the 10th of February, 1820, congratulating the Spanish colonies of South America in their efforts for independence, which was disposed of before the adjournment.

Mr. BAGBY sustained the remarks of Mr. CARBON, made on a prior day, declaring them to be alike creditable to his judgment as a statesman and his long experience in legislative life, and was opposed to taking up the resolution.

A protracted and somewhat irregular debate ensued as to points of business, in which Messrs. DOWNS, CASS, BENTON, CRITTENDEN, ALLEN, DAVIS, DAYTON, NILES, ASHLEY, and others participated.

The question was then taken on Mr. ALLEN's motion and decided in the affirmative as follows:

YEAS—Messrs. Allen, Ashley, Atchison, Atherton, Bagby, Breese, Cass, Davis, of Mississippi, Dickinson, Downs, Fele, Foot, Hale, Hannegan, Houston, Johnson, of Georgia, Lewis, Mason, Moore, Niles, Rank, Spruance, Turney, Underwood, Westcott—32.

NAYS—None.

The following are the resolutions as passed:

Resolved, &c. That in the name and behalf of the American people, the congratulations of Congress are hereby tendered to the people of France upon the success of their recent efforts to consolidate the principles of liberty in a republican form of government.

And he further resolved, That the President of the United States be and he is hereby requested to transmit this resolution to the American minister at Paris, with instructions to present it to the French Government.

FRIDAY, APRIL 7, 1848.

IN SENATE.

Mr. MANGUM of the Chair, whether the resolutions that had been passed last evening were still under the control of the Senate.

and public virtues of the deceased, and concluded by offering the usual resolutions of respect to his memory.  
The resolutions were unanimously adopted, and the Senate adjourned.

## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

After the Journal was read, Mr. SIMS rose and announced the death of the Hon. JAMES A. BLACK, a Representative from South Carolina. Mr. Sims pronounced an eloquent and well-merited eulogium upon the character and public services of the deceased. The usual resolutions were then adopted, and the House adjourned.

THURSDAY, APRIL 6, 1848.

## IN THE SENATE.

Mr. JOHNSON, of Maryland, presented a petition from Henry La Rente, asking the interposition and influence of the Senate with the President of the United States to procure the appointment of pursuer in the navy.

[This gentleman it appears is secretary to the Pacific squadron and is on board the United States ship Independence; he bases his request on long and faithful service, of which the evidence is appended. The memorialist says in his letter that "it is a new mode of seeking an appointment, but it is an upright course. I rely on the integrity of my motives and the justice of my cause."]

## THE FRENCH REVOLUTION.

Mr. HANNEGAN from the Committee on Foreign Relations, to whom had been referred the message of the President of the United States, communicating documents from Mr. Rush, the American Minister Plenipotentiary at Paris, made the following report:

A JOINT RESOLUTION tendering the congratulations of the United States to the people of France.

Resolved, &c. That in the name and on behalf of the American people, the congratulations of this Government are hereby tendered to the French people upon the recent change in their form of Government, and their successful efforts thus far to found for their country institutions similar to our own.

And he further resolved, That the President of the United States be and he is hereby requested to transmit this resolution to the American minister at Paris, with instructions to present them to the supreme authorities of the French Republic.

Mr. H. then moved that the Senate proceed to the consideration of the resolutions of Mr. ALLEN, and with them the joint resolution he had just reported, so as to bring up the whole subject.

The motion having been agreed to, the resolutions of Mr. ALLEN were taken up, with the amendment of Mr. HALE pending.

Mr. MANGUM then moved to amend the amendment by making the joint resolution just reported from the Committee on Foreign Relations a substitute for the resolutions of Mr. ALLEN.

A long and somewhat desultory debate ensued, in which Messrs. FOOTE, ALLEN, NILES, DICKINSON, HALE, HANNEGAN, LOWNS, DAYTON, JOHNSON, of Georgia, PHELPS, and others participated; when the CHAIR stated that the question was on the amendment of Mr. MANGUM, and the question was so put.

The result was, it was decided in the negative by a vote of 28 to 1—Mr. PHELPS alone voting in the affirmative.

Mr. CASS then addressed the Senate: giving his reasons why he preferred the resolutions of Mr. ALLEN to those reported by the Committee on Foreign Relations.

The question having been taken on the motion of Mr. MANGUM, it resulted as follows:

YEAS—Messrs. Bell, Butler, Clarke, Davis, of Mississippi, Dick, Johnson, of Maryland, Johnson, of Georgia, Lewis, Mason, Niles, Phelps, Turney—13.

NAYS—Messrs. Allen, Ashley, Atchison, Atherton, Breese, Cass, Crittenden, Dickinson, Douglas, Downs, Fele, Foot, Hale, Hannegan, Houston, Moore, Niles, Rank, Spruance, Turney, Underwood, Westcott—19.

The question was then about to be put on the adoption of Mr. ALLEN's resolutions; when Mr. CRITTENDEN rose and addressed the Senate briefly but eloquently in favor of the general principles contained in these resolutions, as modified at his (Mr. C.'s) suggestion.

Mr. BUTLER briefly replied; and was followed by Mr. PHELPS, chiefly in reply to Mr. CRITTENDEN, who briefly rejoined; when

Mr. DAVIS, of Mississippi, addressed the Senate in favor of the resolutions, after which the resolutions were ordered to be engrossed.

The question was then put on the passage of the resolutions, on which the yeas and nays were demanded, and it was decided in the affirmative as follows:

YEAS—Messrs. Allen, Ashley, Atchison, Atherton, Bell, Bradbury, Breese, Butler, Cass, Clarke, Crittenden, Davis, of Mississippi, Dickinson, Dick, Douglas, Downs, Fele, Foot, Hale, Hannegan, Houston, Johnson, of Maryland, Johnson, of Georgia, Lewis, Mason, Moore, Niles, Rank, Spruance, Turney, Underwood, Westcott—32.

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FRIDAY, APRIL 7, 1848.

IN SENATE.

Mr. MANGUM of the Chair, whether the resolutions that had been passed last evening were still under the control of the Senate.

The CHAIR replied that they were now out of the possession of the body.

Mr. MANGUM regretted it, as he wished to have moved a reconsideration of the vote with a view to give those Senators who were absent an opportunity to record their names. He should have voted for the resolution of Mr. ALLEN had he been present, though he had a decided preference for those reported by the Committee on Foreign Relations.

Mr. M. then addressed the Senate in some extemporizing way, in which he alluded to the circumstances of the day, and the position of the chairman under the circumstances, he lamented that he had been called away, and thus prevented from taking charge of the resolutions of the committee.

He was sorry that he was not here had not been simply recorded as unanimous, without having recorded in the formality of taking yeas and nays, though had been given in support.

Mr. ALLEN replied that he had not asked the yeas and nays for the reason that the Senate was thin, and should have preferred that the vote had been simply stated unanimous, in accordance with the wishes of the Senator from North Carolina.

The VICE PRESIDENT had before the Senate resolutions of the Legislature of Michigan, recommending an act to quiet the titles to lands on the Sant de St. Marie, and to bring those lands into the market without delay.

Also, from 56 citizens of the United States, asking that Congress will purchase Mount Vernon. This memorial had endorsed on it, "Mr. Dallas will offer the memorial to the House, and the accompanying memorial to be laid before the House so eminently presides over."

## REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES.

By Mr. ATHERTON, from the Committee on Finance: House bill making appropriations for the current and contingent expenses of the Indian Department, and for fulfilling treaty stipulations with the various Indian tribes for the year ending 30th June, 1849, and for other purposes, with various amendments.

By Mr. UPHAM, from the Committee on Revolutionary Claims: An adverse report in the case of Robert Platt, legal representative of Daniel Platt, and of Nancy Haggard; which were ordered to be printed.

By Mr. DOWNS, from the Committee on Indian Affairs: A bill to provide for the sale of lands purchased by the United States from the Shawnee tribe of Chippewa Indians in the State of Michigan.

Also, from the same committee, a bill for the relief of Henry D. Garrison.

By Mr. RUSK, from the Committee on Revolutionary Claims: A bill for the relief of Francis Vincent, administrator of the estate of James L. Case.

By Mr. WESTCOTT, from the Committee of Claims:

House bill for the relief of Charles Waldron, without amendment, accompanied by a report recommending its passage.

Also, from the same committee, asking to be discharged from the further consideration of the petition of Sarah Hubbard.

By Mr. DIX, from the Committee on Commerce: A bill to prevent the importation of adulterated and spurious drugs and medicines.

[The bill provides that after a given time all articles used wholly or in part as medicine imported from abroad shall, before passing the custom-house, be examined as well in reference to their quality, purity, and fitness for medicinal purposes, as to their value and identity specified in the invoice.]

That all medicinal preparations shall have the true name of the manufacturer and of the place where prepared prominently and legibly inscribed on each parcel, all found without them to be forfeited.

That if on examination they are found to be adulterated or in any manner deteriorated so as to render them inferior to the standard established by the United States, English, and French dispensatories, a return to that effect is to be made, and the articles shall not pass the custom-house unless on a re-examination of a strictly analytical character called for by the owner, the return of the examiner shall be found erroneous, and it shall be declared as the result of said analysis that the articles may be used properly, safely, and without danger for medicinal purposes.

The owner has the power, when dissatisfied with the examiner's return, to call for a re-examination, on depositing a sufficient sum to defray the expense.

Is authorized the appointment of suitably qualified persons as special examiners for the cities of Boston, New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Charleston, and New Orleans, with salaries.

Also, from the same committee, House bill to make Ship Island, in the collection district of Pearl river, a port of delivery, and to authorize the appointment of a surveyor for said port, with an amendment.

[Mr. D. urged upon the Senate the necessity for immediate action on the bill, and was briefly followed by Mr. DAVIS, of Mississippi, likewise in support of the same, when the bill was considered by unanimous consent in Committee of the Whole, and read a third time and passed.]

By Mr. HANNEGAN, from the Committee on Roads and Canals: A bill to provide for the repair and improvement of the dam at the head of Cumberland Island, in the Ohio river, and commanding the bill to the special attention of the Senator from Tennessee.

The bill appropriates \$50,000, to be expended under the direction of the Secretary of War, in the repair and improvement of the dam.]

Mr. BELL urged upon the Senate the necessity that existed for immediate action on the bill, and that ordinary rules should be dispensed with in such a case; he had on a former occasion called the attention of the Senate to the facts connected with the subject, as had the Senator from Kentucky, (Mr. CRITTENDEN.) He trusted that no objection would be made to its immediate consideration and passage.

So pressing did he consider the necessity, that if something was not done, and that promptly, it would amount to a perfect non-intercourse with the Ohio and all its tributaries, so far as business was concerned.

Mr. CRITTENDEN expressed his willingness to let the bill concerning the Supreme Court give way to take up the bill just reported.

Mr. BUTLER having objected, the usual forms could not be dispensed with.

Mr. CASS moved to proceed to the consideration of the bill to raise \$1,000,000 to be expended under the direction of the Secretary of War, in the repair and improvement of the dam.]

On this motion a brief debate ensued, Mr. C. calling for the yeas and nays, declaring that he stood pledged to the country and the Senate to press the bill to a close; but he afterwards withdrew the motion, as it seemed to have been the understanding that the Senate was to proceed to the consideration of the act concerning the Supreme Court of the United States today.

The Senate then took up the bill relating to the Supreme Court, when a protracted discussion ensued, in which Messrs. BUTLER, WESTCOTT, ASHLEY, DAYTON, ALLEN, CRITTENDEN, BENTON, BADGER, PHELPS, FOOTE, DOWNS, CALHOUN, and others participated; when the result was as follows:

YEAS—Messrs. Allen, Ashley, Badger, Bagby, Benton, Calhoun, Davis, of Mississippi, Dickinson, Dick, Douglas, Fele, Foot, Hale, Hannegan, Houston, Lewis, Niles, Spruance, Turney, Underwood, Westcott—19.

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By Mr. RUSK, from the Committee on Revolutionary Claims: A bill for the relief of Francis Vincent, administrator of the estate of James L. Case.

By Mr. WESTCOTT, from the Committee of Claims:

## FROM OUR EUROPEAN CORRESPONDENT.

LONDON, MARCH 8, 1848.

Having devoted the two preceding letters, by this packet, to the momentous affairs of France and continental Europe, we must employ the short time and space left to us in a brief detail of English affairs, and of matters connected with her policy and condition.

She cannot be an unconcerned spectator of the mighty and all-absorbing drama which is exhibiting on the other side of the channel. She has wisely declined taking a part in it, leaving those who have commenced it, and are most interested in its success, to play it out; and Heaven grant that it may terminate satisfactorily both to performers and to spectators!

The policy of England is eloquently stated in the following extract from Lord PALMERSTON's speech, in reply to the attack made upon him in the House of Commons by Messrs. AUSTLEY and UNWORTH—a reply which was less characterized by sound argument and indisputable statement, than by gentlemanly bearing and admirable good temper:

"We have endeavored, said his lordship, to extend the commercial relations of this country, and to place them, where extension was not required, on a firmer basis, and a feeling of greater security. I think that in that respect we have done good service to the country; and I hold that, with respect to alliances, England is a power sufficiently strong and potent to steer her own course, and need not tie herself as a necessary appendage to the policy of any other country. [Cheers.] I hold that the real policy of England, as separate from questions which involve her own particular political and commercial interests, is to be the champion of justice and right. [Hear, hear.] In pursuing that course with moderation and prudence, not becoming the Quixote of the world, but giving the weight of her moral sanction and support wherever she thinks justice is in pursuing that course, and in pursuing the course which she should think fit to pursue. [Cheers.] I therefore say that it is narrow policy to suppose that this country or that country is to be marked out as our eternal ally or our eternal enemy. We have no eternal allies and enemies. Our interests are eternal, and these it is our duty to follow. [Cheers.] When we find other countries marching in the same cause, and pursuing the same objects, we long consider them as fellow companions in the same path, and regard them with the most cordial feeling; and when we find other countries pursuing an opposite course, and thwarting us, it is our duty to make allowances for their different conduct, and not to pass too harsh a judgment on them because they do not exactly see things in the same light as we do. It is our duty not lightly to engage this country in the dread responsibility of a coalition, because from time to time we may find this or that Power inclined to concur with us. [Cheers.] That has been, as far as possible, the guiding principle of my conduct, and if I may be allowed to express in one sentence the principles which ought, in my mind, to guide an English statesman, I would say that the interest of England ought to be the Shibboleth of Peace."

The bill for establishing diplomatic relations with Rome has passed the House of Lords. There is not much doubt of its passing the Lower House.

Lord JOHN RUSSELL's announcement that he did not intend to press for the increase of the income tax, but merely to continue it in its present shape for three years, has given great satisfaction. An effort will, however, be made to establish a difference between income and property, and long and severe discussion will take place, both in and out of Parliament, before the measure is matured.

Lord JOHN RUSSELL's health is in a very precarious state, and the responsibilities of his position, as respects both foreign and domestic affairs, do not give him time for either that mental or bodily relaxation which he requires. Rumor has been busy more than once with reports of his resignation on account of ill health, but he has probably no intention of doing so. Should such an emergency arise there would be great difficulty in finding a successor who could command the public confidence at the present moment. Sir ROBERT PEEL has most explicitly declared that he will never again take office.

Let us turn from Politics to Science for a moment, to notice a report upon the qualities of the various sorts of Coal found in England, which has lately been prepared under the gratuitous superintendence of the officers of the Museum of Practical Geology, in the department of Woods and Forests. England is following the example of the United States in this respect, and the willingly accedes to America the credit of having first instituted on a large scale an extensive series of experiments, with a view not only to become acquainted with its own resources, but also to contrast them with the principal varieties of coal produced and used in England. This first English report principally relates to the coals of South Wales, where every variety is found, from the most perfect anthracite to the most bituminous variety. It is ascertained, with reference to the use of coal in steam navigation, that whilst common English coal will convert only seven times its own weight of water into steam, the best kinds of Welsh coal will convert twelve times their own weight. Inquiries are making as to the fitness of the coal found in the East Indies, Borneo, Vancouver's Island, Formosa, and Sydney, for steam vessels. It is evident that the more places in which adequate supplies of suitable coal can be found, the more economically and advantageously can navigation by steam be prosecuted.

The proprietors of the Thames Tunnel held their annual meeting on Monday, when it was stated that 958,347 persons had passed through the tunnel in 1847; the number in 1846 was 1,019,573. The tolls received in 1846 amounted to £24,210; those of 1847 to £23,993. An offer has been made to the directors for the purchase of the tunnel for railway purposes; the engineering difficulties to be overcome are represented as being very trifling.

Bread is said to be cheaper in London at the present time than it has ever been known to be since a regular record of its price has been kept; the four pounds loaf of best bread now selling for 5s. 4d., and the household loaf for 4s. 4d. Your annual Patent Office Report shows that you have plenty of breadstuffs to spare, should we need any; which, however, is not likely to be the case this season. Our present very wet weather is unfavorable for the usual spring agricultural operations, and very destructive to the young lambs. The farmers are complaining of the low price of grain, and the commercial world is a good deal disarranged in consequence of the late proceedings in France, and the present very unsettled state of Europe. Change is visibly impressed upon every thing; God grant that it may lead to an advance of all the best interests of mankind! The next twelve months will probably see more revolutions in the affairs of the world than any previous twelve months ever produced. In the mean time, nobody knows what business is safe, what investment is desirable; for, as Mr. ROBERTSON once said, under pretty nearly similar circumstances, "every thing you touch may prove a hot coal and burn you."

There is such excitement in London, and much disorder and tumultuous assembling of lower classes. The extent of mischief hitherto done has been the breaking of windows. The admirable police has been abundantly able to disperse the mob, with no further violence than some hard rapings with their truncheons. This is the third day that